

# BIG SANDY NEWS

Aut inveniam viam, aut faciam

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## FORD WILL BUILD NEW RAILROAD IN MARTIN COUNTY

Rumor Gets Start When Several Deals for Coal Property are Consummated.

Warfield, Ky., Mar. 4.—Rumors that another railroad will be built into Martin county are flying thick and fast. The fact that some coal company is buying up all the land at the mouth of Rockcastle creek has revived the old dream of a railroad to Rockcastle valley. It is not known what interests are back of the new movement but it is thought that the same people who made up the directorate of the Kentucky By-Products Coal Company are furnishing the finances for the purchase of the lands on the headwaters of Rockcastle and Wolf creeks, and if it is decided to place its coal on the market by building a road up the Rockcastle valley, it would be a great advantage to the company to own in fee all the land about the mouth of the creek.

A railroad has been surveyed up this valley two or three times in the past. Before the close of the last century, a New Yorker who owned some eight or ten thousand acres of coal land on the headwaters of the Middle Fork of Rockcastle, planned to build the road to his property but he died before the arrangements were made and the plans fell through. The Shippings heirs held this property until the last few years when it is said they sold it to the Kentucky By-Product Coal Company.

The coal fields lying on the headwaters of Wolf and Rockcastle creeks are known to be the richest in the United States. Coal seams of almost unbelievable thickness are found in the hills. One seam has six feet of solid coal of the very best quality and it is said that a man can easily ride in to another on horseback. These seams are found in the hills while underneath all this country can be found the famous Warfield seam of coal which the Himler Coal Company at its mines at Himerville, Ky., and its mines at Kermitt, W. Va., are now working. This coal has proved its quality on the markets of the world as it is being sold on a badly overworked market where it is impossible to sell other coal at any price.

It is hardly reasonable to suppose these vast coal beds will remain undeveloped much longer. Inferior coal found in small seams can be found more accessible to the railroads and expense of working these extra and above that required to work veins like those found on the Rockcastle and Wolf creeks more than overbalances the cost of building a railroad to these latter seams.

Then there is another element that will go to furnish a basis for the supposition that another railroad will be built into Martin county. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad has several stretches of road on the Big Sandy. On Beaver creek in Floyd county this company has several miles of road. It also owns the Miller's Creek Railroad at Van Lear, Ky. These roads now are only branch roads to the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad and are great feeders to it. It is thought that the B. & O. will some day connect all these small roads with its main lines at Kenova, W. Va., and in Virginia. If the company does this there will be no better route for the road than along the Rockcastle valley. In this way it can avoid the C. & O. the Big Sandy and can leave the course of the Norfolk and Western at the mouth of Rockcastle. This will give it almost a straight course to the mouth of Beaver creek where it can connect up with its line already built up this creek.

It is known that this company has purchased a large farm on this side of the Big Sandy river just across from the mouth of Beaver creek. This farm is mostly all level land and the company could have no other use for it except to give an approach to a railroad bridge at this place.

A railroad running out to the head of Rockcastle would enter the Johns creek valley which lacks only one mile of being one hundred miles long. Besides being a fertile farming region, this territory could be developed by a branch road running from the main line between Rockcastle and Beaver creeks. Containing Beaver creek and other territory adjacent to the main line of the road if the railroad company decides to build a trunk line thru this part of the country, Johns creek and the Rockcastle, the B. & O. would have a territory if closely worked, superior to either the territory of the C. & O. or the N. & W. Others say there is a chance for Henry Ford to build his proposed road to Beaver through this part of the country. If he should do this and should become the owner of all this mineral land and should become a coal operator himself, Martin county would be fortunate as far as labor troubles are concerned.

The early development of this great coal area would mean much to the people of Martin county. Towns rivaling Jenkins and Van Lear would be built in the Rockcastle valley.—Huntington Herald-Dispatch.

### CHILD DIES.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wright died on Tuesday night of this week. Burial took place in Pine Hill cemetery.

## DOES HE SMILE WITH OR AT FARM BLOC?



This is the new U. S. Senator from Iowa, C. A. Rawson, appointed by Governor Kendall to succeed W. S. Kenyon, recent leader of the Farm Bloc in Congress, who resigned to accept a Federal judgeship. Will Rawson line-up with or against the bloc?

## \$5,000 Offered For Capture of White's Slayer

Five thousand dollars is the reward offered for the slayer of John G. White, Jr., 126, oil driller, Prospect Place, whose dead body was found here eight days ago. It was announced last night by Chief of Police W. B. Galt.

Governor Morrow has been asked to offer a reward in behalf of the state for the capture of the murderer. The governor has not yet acted on the request but John G. White, Sr., president of the Boyd Oil & Gas Company, father of the slain man, will raise the reward to \$5,000 regardless of what the governor may offer.

It is believed that the state will offer a \$500 reward. The father has already offered a \$1,000 reward and he will offer sufficient more to make the total \$5,000, he told the police last night.

White was mysteriously murdered a week ago yesterday morning. His dead body, with a bullet hole through his head from chin to crown, was found lying in a pool of his own blood in the entrance way to Phillips & Thompson's insurance office on Fifteenth-st.—Ashland Independent.

## Train Cuts Off Brakeman's Leg

Paintsville, Ky., March 4.—W. A. Nelson, 39, a brakeman for the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad here suffered the loss of a leg early today when he was caught under a derailed tank of a locomotive.

Nelson was riding on a step according to reports at the hospital here, when the car was derailed. His right leg was caught and so severely crushed that amputation was necessary. The leg was removed between the ankle and the knee.

Nelson was rushed to Paintsville where he was attended by Dr. H. Holbrook. He was resting easily tonight. He lives in Paintsville.

## DISTRICT CONFERENCE IN CATLETTSBURG

The Ashland District Kentucky Conference of the M. E. Church was in session in Catlettsburg Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week. The officials are: Wm. F. Anderson, L. L. D., Resident Bishop; S. K. Hunt, District Superintendent, and W. D. Foley, Entertaining Pastor.

Rev. John Cheap, of this place, is on the program for Friday morning at 11 a. m., his subject being, "The Church and Fanaticism."

## MRS. FLANERY'S BILL PASSES STATE SENATE

Frankfort, March 4.—The bill of Mrs. Mary Elliott Flanery, representative from Boyd-co., amending the Confederate pension law to include all Confederate soldiers who took the oath of allegiance, and widows who live out of the state, was passed in the senate today.

The vote on the bill was 19 to 10.

## BIRTHDAY DINNER.

Sol Crabtree attended the birthday dinner of Mrs. Sophia Frazier at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Tom Rice of Two Mile on Wednesday, March 8, this being the birthday of both Mr. Crabtree and Mrs. Frazier. A delicious dinner was served at noon in their honor.

## ASSESSMENT OF LAWRENCE REDUCED

E. E. Shannon, Fred M. Vinson and M. F. Conley appeared before the State Tax Commission at Frankfort Thursday of last week and protested against the increase of a million dollars in Lawrence county's valuation.

The net result is that Lawrence county will pay taxes on at least \$600,000 less than last year.

Lawrence sent up a valuation of \$1,300,000 less than last year. The State Board reduced their raise \$250,000 and will allow us credit for all additional property listed, which will amount to a considerable sum. Counting the \$500,000 difference shown above, we will have over \$600,000 less valuation than last year.

## Harris Road Bill Passes the Senate

Frankfort, March 4.—The Senate today passed by a vote of 23 to 0 the bill of Senator Brig H. Harris of Ashland providing for the building as part of the primary system of state highways the road from Paintsville to Inez and Warfield.

The road will make it possible for Martin county residents to reach roads on either side of the county, which hitherto has been almost cut off from rail transportation. On the west lies the Big Sandy division of the Chesapeake & Ohio leading to Ashland or to Pikeville, while on the east runs the main line of the Norfolk & Western.

## Tackett Freed of Moore Murder

Pikeville, Ky., March 3.—Freeland Tackett, resident of Island creek, Pike county, was exonerated of the murder of Fitch Moore, Hurricane creek miner, when a jury in circuit court here last night returned a verdict of not guilty after a conference in the jury room, which lasted only a few minutes.

## A TOWBOAT FOR BIG SANDY RIVER

The Great Eastern Refining Company which is now building an oil refinery at Leach Station, Ky., 3 miles south of Catlettsburg on the Big Sandy river expects to put a towboat into Big Sandy river about the middle of April to tow oil tank barges from Glenayre, W. Va., and Putters, Ky., to the refinery.

The boat will make a round trip per day between refinery and storage tanks and tow one barge containing a maximum of 1000 barrels and a minimum of 750 barrels each trip. Later on it is expected to put in another towboat and barge, and double output. The refined product will be shipped by rail at present but later on it is intended to use tank barges for part of it, to run to Pittsburgh. The towboat will have double crew, and run night and day from the start.

The oil barge is being built of steel at Point Pleasant, W. Va.

## Capture Three Stills; Arrest Four Men

Pikeville, Ky., March 7.—Revenue Officers J. M. Billiter, J. C. Bentley, Mat Sanders, Tom Patrick and J. H. Murphy captured two stills on the Dry Fork of Shelby creek in a raid, from which they have just returned to Pikeville. They also arrested Mose Dameron and Roy Roberts, in whose houses these stills and outfits were found.

On the same raid they captured a seventy-five-gallon still in the Cumberland Mountains on the Lick Branch of Elk Horn creek. They arrested Richard Potter and his brother, Willie, who were at the still making a run of moonshine from 1,000 gallons of beer. The officers guarded the approach from above, while one of their number stole in below and approached the still. His approach was announced by the faithful watch dog of the moonshiners, and, as was expected, the two moonshiners fled up to the narrow path toward the mountain top and into the very arms of the officers. They were brought to Pikeville.

## ANOTHER TROOPER WEDS; TWO ONLY ARE LEFT

The epidemic of marriages which recently struck the contingent of West Virginia state police stationed in Mingo county continues unabated, and only two single members are left at the Williamson post.

Sergeant David Peterson is the latest victim. He succumbed last evening when he stood before Hymen's altar and claimed for his bride Miss Louise Farrar, Williamson young woman, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James O'Brien.

The only remaining members of the Williamson outfit who rejoice in the uncertain bliss of single blessedness are Captain J. R. Brooks and Private Clyde Tickle.—Williamson (W. Va.) News.

## BASKET BALL GAME NEXT MONDAY, MARCH 8

The basket ball team of Pikeville College will be in Louisa next Monday evening to play the Louisa Independents. The game will take place at the armory.

## Billy Sunday is Now in Charleston, W. Va.

(The famous evangelist is conducting a meeting in Charleston, with the usual great interest. The following extract is from a sermon preached a few days ago to boys and girls:)

"Now, boys and girls. You are young men and women, but I call you boys and girls. You have got to have a desire to grow and develop. You have got to feel your need to grow. Just like a miser wants money, or a politician wants office. We can tax the people, build schools, build colleges, build universities, hire teachers; we can give you the opportunity, but we cannot inculcate in you a desire to learn. Building schools is one thing, education is another. One thing is up to the taxpayers, the other is up to you. Keep Good Company.

You ask how am I going to get this. Well, you can ask a tack in a keg of nails how he feels. He would say, I am not going to continue to be a tack. I am going to become as big as the biggest spike in the keg. How can I become it? By keeping company with boys and girls who are big in mind, big in morals, big in character, boys and girls that will develop and create within you ambition, so that you may grow and develop, and become something in this old world. When a boy drinks, swears, blasphemes, sneers at religion, it is simply because he is going with a Godless gang that is doing the same thing.

There are four things you need to make you a leader of others. Blood. You need to have a good start. Environment. You must have your surroundings good. Grit. You need lots of that to stand the trick. Education. And above all Christianity. These are the things you need if you want to climb to the top. Many a boy fails to get anywhere because he has a wishbone that is bigger than backbone. Many a man couldn't tell whether he wanted to be a college professor or an auctioneer and he had luck enough to keep out of the poor house because he found some girl who was big enough, strong enough and willing enough to stand over a washtub and feed the little brood.

The proprietor of the Waldorf hotel in New York used to be a waiter at two dollars a week. Some fellows have too much pride to take the first job that offers. They want to wear a white shirt, patent leather shoes—that's the kind of a job they want and their mother has to take in washing waiting for him to find it. Somebody said to a boy, "Kid, how did you learn to skate so well?" And the boy answered: "By getting up every time I fell down." In other words, don't take the count.

Depends on Mind. Some young people will never reach the goal, the top—one great barrier is ignorance. Your size depends upon your mind, not your muscles.

Educational advantages were never greater than they are today. Books were never cheaper. They are like the leaves on the trees. Printing presses run day and night. The telegraph runs to the four corners of the world. Newspapers hand you the news of the world every morning in the week for 10 or 15 cents. The newspaper today is a better college than Abraham Lincoln had—just the newspaper. The limbs of the tree of knowledge hang so close to the ground that the boy or girl who is ambitious can walk up and pluck the fruit away.

## Figures on Education.

The Bureau of Education in Washington presents figures. Now, I want you to listen to them. Fifteen million young men in this country who are over the age of 20 years. 12,000,000 of them had a common school education; 2,000,000 could not read or write; 650,000 graduated from high schools; 350,000 graduated from colleges. There is published in this country a book called "Who Is Who in America." It contains 12,000 names; they are people who are in the lime light, the people who are the headlines in their professions. Listen, of the 12,000,000 who had the common school education, one in 3,000 has his name in that book; of the 2,000,000 that could not read or write, not one; of the 650,000 who graduated from high schools, one in every 440; of the 350,000 that graduated from universities and colleges, one in 42 has his name in that book.

I will tell you what is the matter with you fellows. You would rather work and wear a clean shirt or white shirt and patent leather shoes and work for four or five dollars a week and call it salary than you would to put on a pair of overalls and a hickory shirt or a flannel shirt and take a dinner bucket and work for \$5 a day and call it wages.

## Some Are Quitters.

A lot of you fellows have reversed the rules. You don't play the game fair. You have started on third base, your run don't count. You are down and out. Helen Keller was blind, deaf and dumb since she was a baby; and she has a bushel of diplomas. With her example before you, quit your wind-jamming and go to climbing. If your pockets are empty, fill your hearts with ambition.

## L. G. HENRY DIES.

The following in regard to the death of Glenn Henry has been given us for publication. His wife and two children survive. Burial took place at Roxbury, Massachusetts:

In Roxbury, Feb. 28, Leonard G., beloved husband of Catherine J. Henry (nee Burns.) Funeral from residence, 20 Sumner-st., Thursday, March 2, at 2:45 a. m. High mass of requiem at the Mission church at 9:45. Kentucky papers please copy.

## PERFECT FIGHTING MAN HAILS FROM OMAHA



In the recent national search by American Legion posts to find the physically perfect and typical Yank fighting man, Sergeant Wm. McCrean, 10th Infantry, who lives in Omaha, Neb., was selected. His measurements: 5 feet 10 1/4 inches; weight, 160 pounds; hair, light brown; eyes, blue.

## Tigert Defends Mountain People of Kentucky at N. E. A. Meeting

Chicago.—A plea that American educational institutions place greater stress on "the old fashioned virtues of honesty, justice and decency" and less on the subjects generally termed "highbrow," was made by John J. Tigert, United States Commissioner of Education in an address before the National Education Association department of superintendents convention.

"If we cannot teach these virtues along with modern thought, then we had better dismantle our splendidly equipped institutions and return to the old log school house," said Mr. Tigert. "In the words of a famous evangelist, 'I would rather have my boy in heaven learning his A B C's than in hell reading Latin and Greek.' We had better have citizens who have character and little erudition than citizens whose knowledge is a peril to society.

"The man who discovered that surgical instruments should be sharp made an important discovery, but much more important was the discovery that they should be sterilized. Better to have a dull knife that is clean than a sharp one that is foul.

"Germany showed us plainly the evil of education for culture and efficiency without proper social attitude. Germany raised the efficiency of education in the nth power, but this efficiency was directed into a spring at the throat of the world and brought on a pentecost of calamity that almost destroyed civilization.

"A learned man has said that 4,200 college professors caused the World War, and he refers to the 4,200 professors who so efficiently taught the Germans that 'might is right.' We are supermen and God demands destruction of the weaker people about us and 'now abide faith, hope and hate and the greatest of these is hate.'

"Illiterates are not all bad citizens, nor are they altogether inefficient. Nor is anything further from the truth than the general belief that our illiterates are mostly negroes and the mountain whites of the South. The real centers of illiteracy are the big manufacturing States, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois.

"It is unfair to criticize the whites of Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina because their educational standards are low.

"Abraham Lincoln was one of these people. They may be illiterate, but they are splendidly efficient as citizens. These mountain people won the battle of King's Mountain in the dark hours of American history. They destroyed the power of the British army, fresh from campaigns against the armies of Napoleon at New Orleans. And note the three heroes selected by General Pershing as the country's greatest and assigned to the burial of the unknown soldier—Sergeant Woodfill, a Kentucky mountaineer, Sergeant York, a Tennessee mountaineer, and Major Whittlesey of New York.

"We have not yet learned to teach citizenship to our boys and girls. We must teach respect for the flag, we must teach the principles of our Government and American history in a far more effective way.

"Americans are intensely patriotic, but through ignorance they render less respect for their flag and their country than any other peoples."

## 28 Murder Cases on Floyd Docket

The Ashland Independent says:—Chief of Police Lambert returned from Prestonsburg where he had been called as a witness in a trial in the Floyd Circuit Court. The chief stated that the city of Prestonsburg was crowded, as it was experiencing one of the heaviest terms of circuit court that had been held there in many years. He said that in a talk with Circuit Judge Williams the latter told him that twenty-eight murder cases were on the docket for this term. The greatest part of the crimes, he said, had been committed in and around the Beaver creek section.

The Floyd terms will last three weeks, the court having already been in session for more than ten days. The famous Frazier murder case is at present occupying the court's attention.

## SCHOOL MEETING HELD IN LOUISA

A meeting of the Board of Trade was held at the court house Monday night to which the general public was invited and the court house was filled with people.

The chief subject was the new State Normal school. The situation was discussed and committees were appointed for various work planned for getting the new Normal at Louisa.

About 50 new members were secured for the Board of Trade and more than \$300 was raised for expenses of the normal school committee.

President Snyder was given the power to increase the committee to Frankfort. Out of a number named the following have gone: R. C. McClure, E. E. Shannon, Mayor L. F. Wellman and M. F. Conley.

There were a number of speeches made and much enthusiasm prevailed.

## Wayne County Man Fatally Shot

The Wayne, W. Va., News says:—Clifford Ferguson, age 24 years, was fatally shot near his home on Grapeton creek, this county, late Sunday afternoon. He died from the effects of the wound at four o'clock Tuesday morning.

Dow Dempsey, of the same neighborhood, is alleged to have fired on Ferguson after a quarrel over some personal differences. Members of the State Police force stationed in Wayne were sent to the scene of the shooting this week, but Dempsey, together with his brother, Henry, who was with him at the time Ferguson was shot, is said to have immediately left the neighborhood. It is believed by officials that he sought refuge in Mingo county, where he formerly lived.

Ferguson was shot twice through the back with a .32 automatic pistol. Dr. G. B. Burgess of Wayne, attended him and extracted one of the bullets, but vital organs had been torn by the shots and it was impossible to save his life.

Ferguson is the son of Isaac Ferguson, widely known and respected citizen. He is survived by his father, mother, three brothers and four sisters.

## CITY COUNCIL.

The city council met Tuesday night with Mayor L. F. Wellman presiding. Present were councilmen W. M. Taylor, Claude Wilson, Harry Creele, Charles Wellman and R. C. Burton.

The officers made their reports, which were accepted.

C. L. Miller, who was employed to check up and report on the street paving reported it as substantially correct as now appears on the records, except that Lock avenue ought to be re-measured and calculated. There is some confusion as to intersections.

Engineer L. E. Wallace was directed to measure and check up Lock avenue. J. Israelsky reported that some of the merchants who have been contributing to one-half of the night marshal's salary were dissatisfied with the arrangement and would not continue to pay Mont Thompson. He offered to serve for the \$40 per month now being paid by the city, but did not agree to stay out all night. He proposed to keep the street lights in condition as one of his duties. The council accepted his offer.

An order was made to put the street paving tax book into the marshal's hands for collection.

An investigation of the cost of a street sweeper was ordered.

J. M. Cyrus asked for reimbursement for a sidewalk reconstructed in front of his residence property. It was passed over for investigation.

Dan Stansberry was employed for another month on street cleaning work.

The marshal was ordered to list all dogs in the town.

## BORDERLAND MAN DIES IN FLORIDA

The body of Claude Roman, 22 years old was laid to rest in the Deakins cemetery at Borderland. The young man was drowned while fishing at Tampa, Fla., where with his wife and with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. Roman, he was spending the winter. The parents formerly lived in Williamson where a daughter, Mrs. J. M. Nowlin, now resides. The parents now live at Hot Springs, Ark.—Williamson News.

## MONT HOLT'S CHILD DIES OF PNEUMONIA

Anna Mary Holt, the little three year old daughter of Mont Holt, died last Sunday evening at the home of her grandmother, Mrs. Pauline Robinson, after several weeks illness of pneumonia.

Her mother, Mrs. Mont Holt, died a few weeks ago from the same disease. The funeral services were held Tuesday morning from the residence of Mrs. Robinson and the remains were buried beside those of her mother in the Wells-Buckingham cemetery near the depot.—Paintsville Herald.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL INSTITUTE HELD IN ASHLAND

Rev. J. D. Bell, Miss Matilda Wallace and Mr. J. K. Jordan were in Ashland Wednesday attending the Sunday School Institute of the Ashland district. They were delegates from the M. E. Church, South, school of this place.